

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
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R 071605Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7585
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USNMR SHAPE BEL
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT
USMISSION USNATO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 0946

BRUSSELS FOR USEEC
USCINCEUR FOR POLAD
USDOCOSOUTH FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, CY, TU
SUBJECT: POSSIBLE SHIFT IN GOC ATTITUDE TOWARD TURKISH PROPOSALS

REF: NICOSIA 154 (181400Z JAN 78)

1. WE BELIEVE WE HAVE DETECTED IN PAST FEW WEEKS WHAT
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MIGHT BE A SLIGHT SHIFT BY GOC TOWARDS A LESS NEGATIVE
ATTITUDE TO PROPOSALS BEING PREPARED BY TURKISH SIDE.
IN PUBLIC STATEMENTS, PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU HAS BEGUN
MORE CAREFULLY TO BALANCE THE NECESSITY OF SERIOUSLY
EXAMINING THE PROPOSALS AGAINST DOUBTS THAT THEY
WOULD PROVIDE GROUNDS FOR RESUMPTION OF TALKS.
EARLIER, KYPRIANOU TOOK NO PAINS TO DISGUISE HIS

SKEPTICISM ABOUT ANY POSSIBLE PROPOSALS.

2. OTHER POLITICAL LEADERS HAVE ALSO CAUTIONED RECENTLY AGAINST HASTY REJECTION OF PROPOSALS. AKEL (COMMUNIST) LEADERS PAPAIOANNOU AND ZIARTIDES HAVE SPOKEN OUT IN FAVOR OF GIVING PROPOSALS A FAIR EXAMINATION. POLITICAL LEADERS ON THE RIGHT, INCLUDING GREEK CYPRIOT NEGOTIATOR PAPADOPULOS, HAD ALREADY TAKEN STANDS AGAINST REJECTING PROPOSALS OUT OF HAND. KYPRIANOU MAY HAVE MODIFIED HIS LINE TO AVOID LETTING HIS POLITICAL RIVALS APPEAR MORE FLEXIBLE THAN HE.

3. ILLUSTRATIVE OF THE POSSIBLE SHIFT WAS EDITORIAL IN LARGEST CIRCULATION, GENERALLY PRO-GOVERNMENT NEWSPAPER PHILILIFTHEROS APRIL 6. THIS PAPER HAS BEEN ONE OF MOST SKEPTICAL JOURNALS ON SUBJECT OF PROPOSALS. HOWEVER, APRIL 6 EDITORIAL COMMENTED THAT IT WAS ESSENTIAL THAT TURKISH PROPOSALS BE CAREFULLY EXAMINED IN ALL THEIR ASPECTS BEFORE GOC TOOK A POSITION ON THEM.

4. COMMENT: WE CAUTION AGAINST READING TOO MUCH INTO THIS POSSIBLE SLIGHT CHANGE IN OFFICIAL (AND UNOFFICIAL) GREEK CYPRIOT ATTITUDES. KYPRIANOU REMAINS AS INSISTENT AS EVER THAT "MAKARIOS' PRINCIPLES"" BE ACCOMMODATED IN ANY SETTLEMENT. NEVERTHELESS, THE LOCAL CLIMATE MAY BE A BIT BETTER NOW FOR RESUMPTION OF TALKS THAN IT
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WAS A FEW MONTHS AGO (REFTEL). END COMMENT.
STONE

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